MARVEL
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MAYHEW
STAR WARS
THE STORMS OF CRAIT

STORMS OF CRAIT

It is a period of urgency within the Rebel Alliance.

Ever since the destruction of the evil Galactic Empire's Death Star and the Battle of Yavin, the rebels have been on the run, in search of a new location to hold their base of operations. Rebellion hero Princess Leia of Alderaan has made the search her personal mission with the help of her friends Luke Skywalker and smuggler Han Solo.

However, finding a new secret location to hide from the Imperial army is much harder when they're hot on the tail of the Millennium Falcon....

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I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE DOING THIS! THIS IS CRAZY! WHOSE PLAN WAS THIS, KID?
IT WAS *YOURS*, HAN! THIS WAS YOUR PLAN!
I WAS JUST THROWING SOMETHING OUT SO SOMEONE ELSE WOULD COME UP WITH SOMETHING BETTER!
SOMETHING LIKE "*FIND SOMEWHERE THE EMPIRE CAN'T FIND US AND JUMP THERE.*" THAT'D BE A GOOD PLAN.

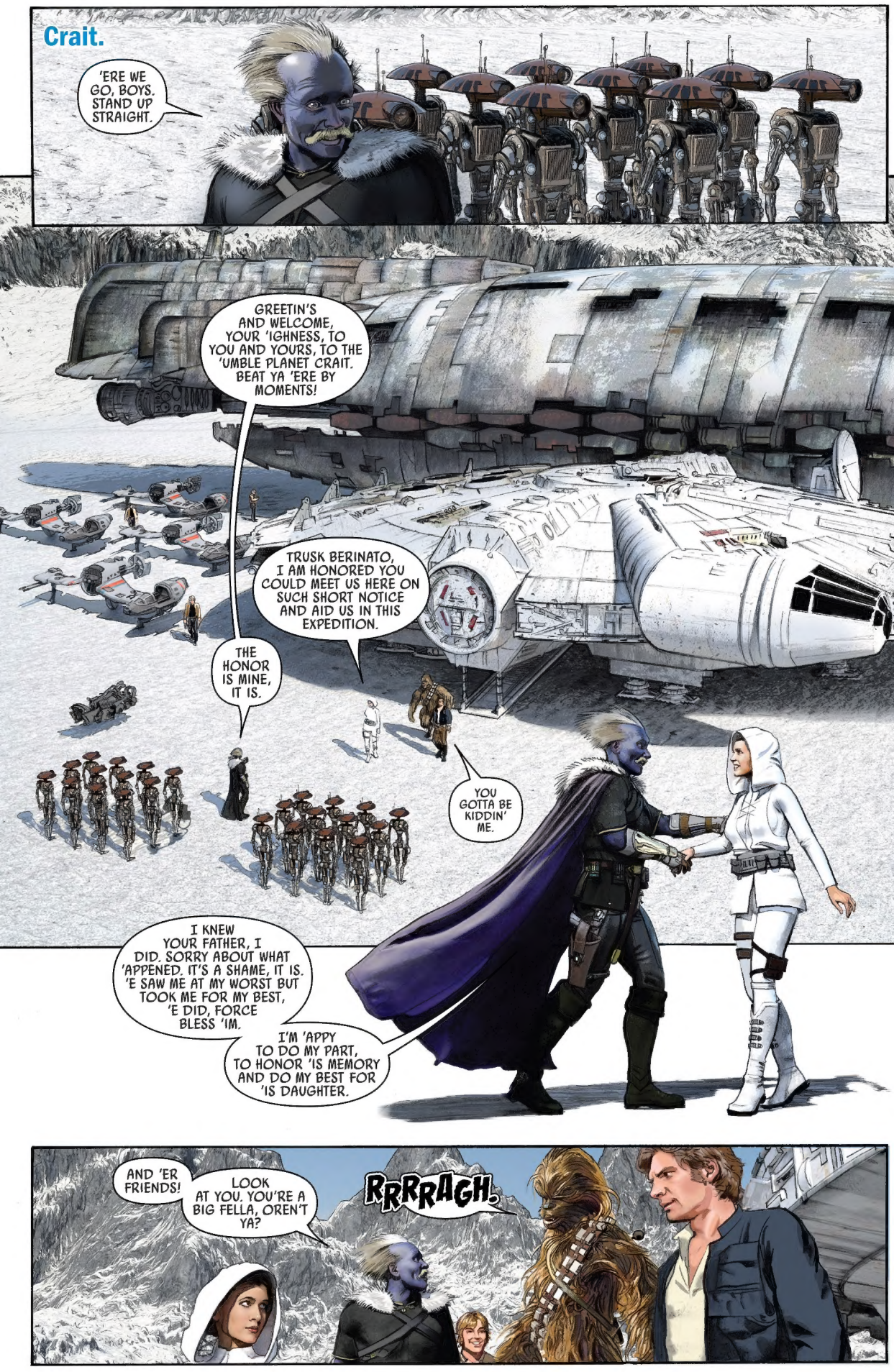
WORKING ON THE NEXT JUMP COORDINATES NOW. CAN YOU KEEP THOSE FIGHTERS BUSY?
NOT A PROBLEM! HAN'S PLAN IS ACTUALLY WORKING!
WHEN WILL YOU PEOPLE LEARN TO TRUST ME, *HUH?* I ALWAYS KNOW WHAT I'M--

UH-OH.
FALL BACK! FALL BACK!
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, MON MOTHMA.
RENDEZVOUS POINT C.
BARAAN-FA?
IF YOU HAVE A BETTER IDEA, WE CAN DISCUSS IT FROM THE SAFETY OF BARAAN-FA.
SET COORDINATES FOR RENDEZVOUS POINT C.
YOU GOT IT, PRINCESS.
CHEWIE, YOU HEARD THE WOMAN!

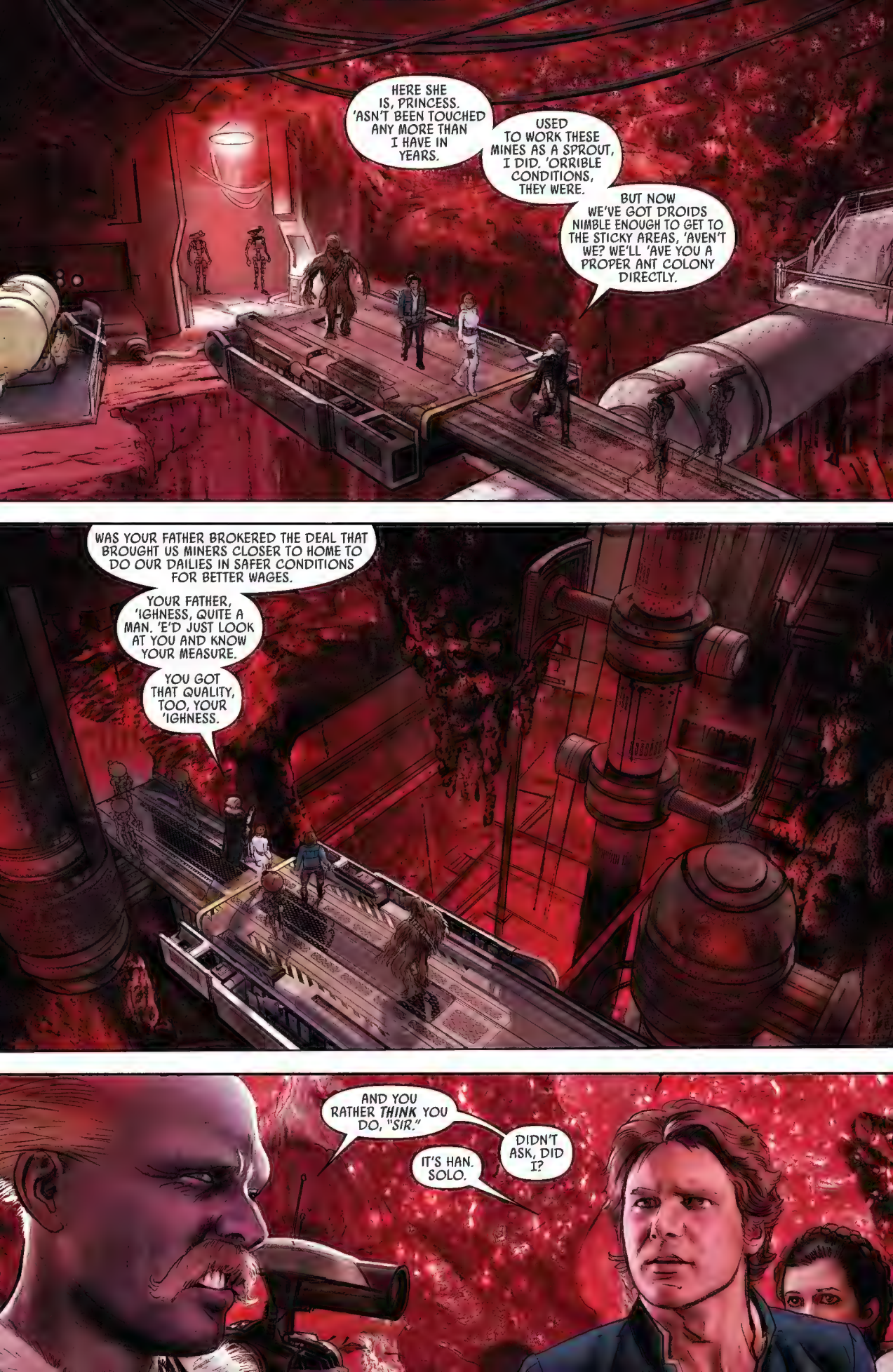
Baraan-Fa.
"AS WE'VE DISCUSSED, LEIA, I DO NOT DISAGREE WITH YOU ON PRINCIPLE."
A MORE PERMANENT BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR THE REBELLION WOULD BE IDEAL, BUT SUCH A THING TAKES TIME AND RESOURCES WE WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO SPARE.
THE WETLANDS OF SABANASH--
FAR TOO UNSTABLE.
THE MOON OF OOLOPONI--
ABSOLUTELY NOT. TOO HOT.
THEN LET ME TAKE A SQUADRON TO CRAIT. IT ISN'T TOO FAR FROM HERE AND--
CRAIT? CRAIT IS A DEAD PLANET.

DEAD IS GOOD! DEAD IS QUIET. DEAD PLANETS KEEP SECRETS.
THERE ARE REASONS A PLANET IS DEAD. REASONS THAT MAKE IT INHOSPITABLE TO THE LIVING.
I HAVE IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT RIGHT NOW IT IS NOT *JUST* HOSPITABLE, BUT *IDEAL* TO OUR NEEDS.
ON WHOSE GOOD AUTHORITY?
A FRIEND OF MY FATHER'S NAMED *TRUSK BERINATO*, A Q'ITANE FROM UPPER ETREGA.
I KNOW TRUSK. YOUR FATHER TRULY DID SEE THE BEST IN PEOPLE, DIDN'T HE?
HE SAW *POTENTIAL*. I TRY TO DO THE SAME, WHICH IS WHY I BELIEVE CRAIT COULD BE IMPORTANT.
CRAIT'S A FULLY OPERATIONAL MINING FACILITY THAT WAS ABANDONED DUE TO A LABOR DISPUTE. ITS PRISTINE SYSTEM OF ABANDONED MINES WOULD PROVIDE BOTH SHELTER AND CONCEALMENT.
VERY WELL. TAKE SOMEONE IN WHOM YOU SEE POTENTIAL AND LEAD A SURVEY OF CRAIT.

Later...
LEAD THE WAY, CAPTAIN SKYWALKER. YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THIS MISSION.
SOME MISSION. WE'RE JUST HAULING FARM EQUIPMENT.
COPY THAT, LEIA. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIDENCE IN ME.
WE'RE COMING PLANETSIDE, FOLKS. FOLLOW ME DOWN AND STAY ALERT. REMEMBER, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN...
...ON CRAIT. WHERE WE'RE GOING. BECAUSE NOTHING HAS EVER HAPPENED THERE.
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH US, I GUESS.


Crait.
'ERE WE GO, BOYS. STAND UP STRAIGHT.
GREETIN'S AND WELCOME, YOUR 'IGHNESS, TO YOU AND YOURS, TO THE 'UMBLE PLANET CRAIT. BEAT YA 'ERE BY MOMENTS!
TRUSK BERINATO, I AM HONORED YOU COULD MEET US HERE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE AND AID US IN THIS EXPEDITION.
THE HONOR IS MINE, IT IS.
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME.
I KNEW YOUR FATHER, I DID. SORRY ABOUT WHAT 'APPENED. IT'S A SHAME, IT IS. 'E SAW ME AT MY WORST BUT TOOK ME FOR MY BEST, 'E DID, FORCE BLESS 'IM.
I'M 'APPY TO DO MY PART, TO HONOR 'IS MEMORY AND DO MY BEST FOR 'IS DAUGHTER.
AND 'ER FRIENDS!
LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE A BIG FELLA, OREN'T YA?
RRRRAGH.

IT'S A DESOLATE PLANET, IT IS. ANY FLORA Y'SEE IS DESPERATE TO MAKE A GO OF IT.
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.
HOPE YOU FARE BETTER THAN THEY WILL. THESE TREES, ALL'A THIS LIFE, CAN'T SURVIVE ON A PLANET LIKE THIS'UN.
LUKE, ONCE WE GET THE LAY OF THE LAND, I WANT YOU AND YOUR CREW TO CLEAR THE AREA PAST THE SHIPS.
EVENTUALLY WE'LL INSTALL A HANGAR, BUT FOR NOW, LET'S MAKE IT HOSPITABLE.
AYE AYE.
IF I WANTED TO ROLL FARM EQUIPMENT AROUND, I WOULDA STAYED ON TATOOINE...
I CAN HEAR YOU.
I SAID IT SO YOU COULD HEAR ME!
LOOK, KID. I KNOW THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND, BUT TAKE IT FROM ME--YOU GET SHOT AT PLENTY IN THIS LIFE. ENJOY THE MOMENTS NOBODY'S SHOOTING AT YOU.
ALL RIGHT, CREW. THIS IS WHERE WE GET OFF.
FOLLOW ME AND LET'S ENJOY SOME MOMENTS.

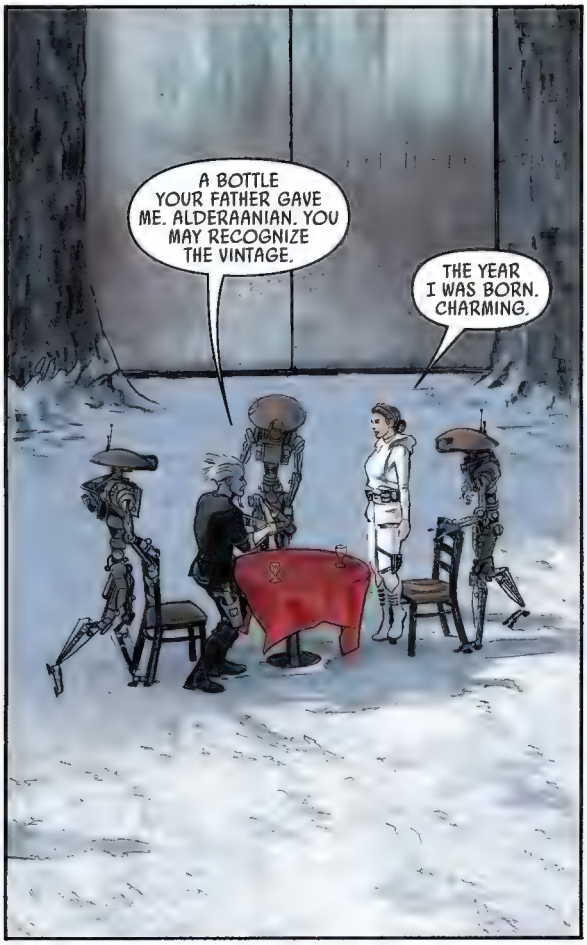

HERE SHE IS, PRINCESS. 'ASN'T BEEN TOUCHED ANY MORE THAN I HAVE IN YEARS.
USED TO WORK THESE MINES AS A SPROUT, I DID. 'ORRIBLE CONDITIONS, THEY WERE.
BUT NOW WE'VE GOT DROIDS NIMBLE ENOUGH TO GET TO THE STICKY AREAS, 'AVEN'T WE? WE'LL 'AVE YOU A PROPER ANT COLONY DIRECTLY.
WAS YOUR FATHER BROKERED THE DEAL THAT BROUGHT US MINERS CLOSER TO HOME TO DO OUR DAILIES IN SAFER CONDITIONS FOR BETTER WAGES.
YOUR FATHER, 'IGHNESS, QUITE A MAN. 'E'D JUST LOOK AT YOU AND KNOW YOUR MEASURE.
YOU GOT THAT QUALITY, TOO, YOUR 'IGHNESS.
AND YOU RATHER *THINK* YOU DO, "SIR."
IT'S HAN. SOLO.
DIDN'T ASK, DID I?

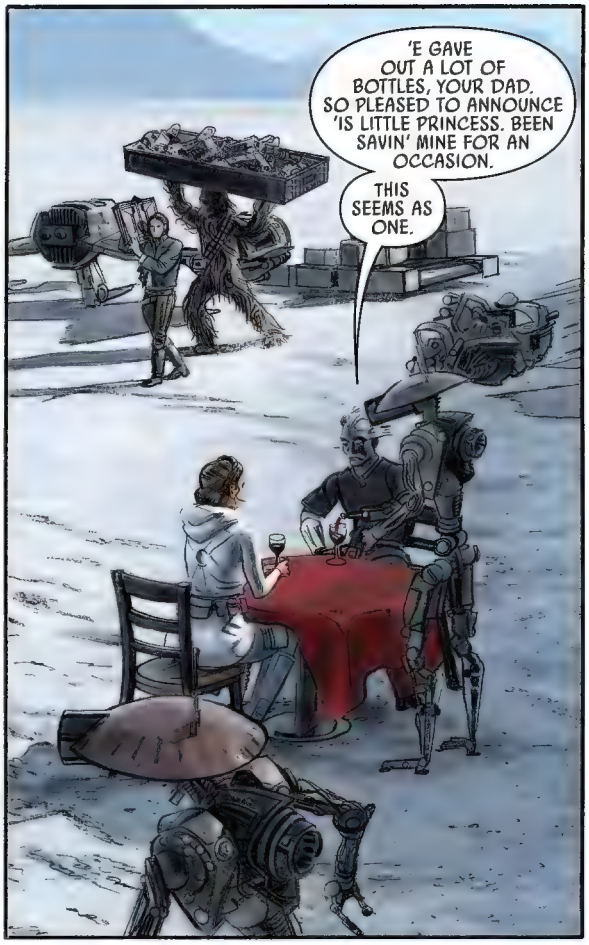
I DON'T TRUST HIM--THE WAY HE LOOKS AT YOU.
IT'S CALLED REVERENCE. I USED TO GET THAT LOOK A LOT BEFORE I MET YOU.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DON'T SEE IT. JUST BECAUSE HE MA'AMS YOU WITH A CURTSEY--
BREATHE, HAN. I'M JUST FLIPPING YOUR SWITCHES. GOOD TO KNOW YOU CARE.
I DON'T!

YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD BE BETTER THAN TRENCHING RIGHT NOW?
ANYTHING?
LITERALLY ANYTHING.
TKTKTKTKTKT!
AHHHH!
A WORM?!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!
PUT IT AWAY, WEDGE. THIS CRITTER REMINDS ME OF DUNE WORMS AT HOME. THEY DON'T BOTHER YOU IF YOU DON'T BOTHER TH--
THE HELL?
PEW PEW

LEMME GO, YA JAWA'S UNCLE! I'M PROTECTING US!
RRRGH!
TKTKTKTKTKT!
HAN! STOP! THE MORE YOU FIGHT, THE MORE THEY FIGHT BACK.
RRRRAARGH.
I DID TOO KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING.
LUKE, LEIA SENT US FOR THE COMMS. LOOKS LIKE WE'RE CALLING IN THE FLEET. HOW'S IT LOOK OUT HERE TO YOU?
LOOKS LIKE HOME.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M RUNNING A BASIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT. I MIGHT AS WELL STILL BE MOISTURE FARMING.
LOOKS LIKE THERE *ARE* WATER DEPOSITS UNDER HERE, SO THAT EXPLAINS THE WORMS. BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY'RE SURVIVING WITH THE DEPOSITS DRYING UP...
MAYBE THEY'RE LIVING OFF THE THRILL OF ATTACKING HARMLESS PREY LIKE ME.
SO THEY LIVE IN THE WATER DEPOSITS, THEY BURROW UP THROUGH THE DIRT TO GRAB WHATEVER DIGS THROUGH THE GROUND AFTER THE INSECTS THAT LIVE THERE. IT'S A WHOLE UNDERGROUND SYSTEM DOWN HERE.
OR WHAT'S LEFT OF IT.
HOW LONG DO YOU FIGURE THEY HAVE? ANOTHER FEW CYCLES?
IF THEY'RE LUCKY.
C'MON. I HAVE A HUNCH.
UP AHEAD! LOOK!
WHAT HAPPENED?
LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE FLASH-DRIED. I'VE SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN A SANDSTORM, BUT FOR THIS TO HAPPEN...IT WOULD HAVE HAD...
LET ME JUST THINK...
WEDGE, WE HAVE TO WARN THE OTHERS!


A BOTTLE YOUR FATHER GAVE ME. ALDERAANIAN. YOU MAY RECOGNIZE THE VINTAGE.
THE YEAR I WAS BORN. CHARMING.


'E GAVE OUT A LOT OF BOTTLES, YOUR DAD. SO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE 'IS LITTLE PRINCESS. BEEN SAVIN' MINE FOR AN OCCASION.
THIS SEEMS AS ONE.

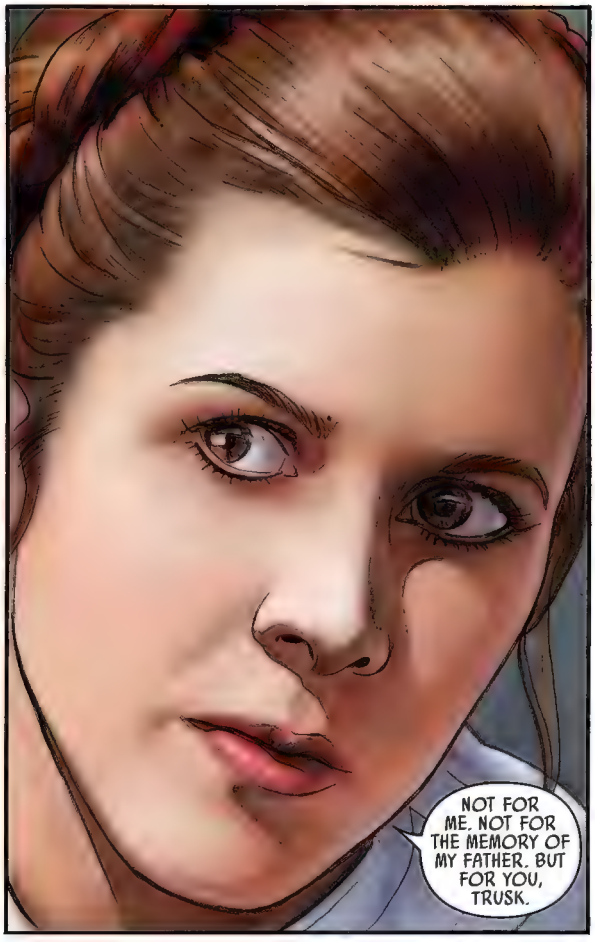
SHALL WE TOAST TO 'IM? TO YOU? TO US, PERHAPS, AND OUR NEW REBEL BASE ON CRAIT?

LET'S NOT TOAST TO THAT. I'M NOT SURE YET IF WE'RE GOING TO STAY HERE, TRUSK.
YOU'RE NOT SURE?! THEN WHAT ARE WE LUGGING THIS JUNK AROUND FOR? PUT IT DOWN, CHEWIE!
GRWR.

MON MOTHMA DOESN'T TRUST YOU. BUT I WANT TO. WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EMPIRE, TRUSK.
YOU DO?
WE DO?

WE KNOW YOU HAVE A SQUAD OF STORMTROOPERS WAITING FOR YOUR SIGNAL.
WE DO?

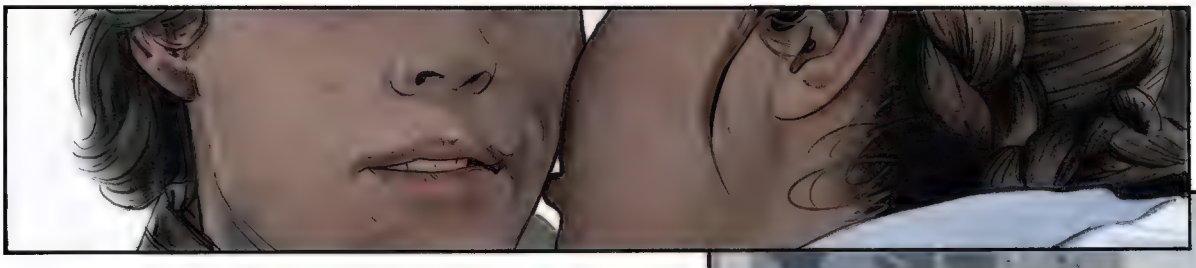
THEN WHY THE HELL ARE WE HERE?
BECAUSE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, TRUSK WILL HELP US. MY FATHER SAW IT IN HIM AND I DO, TOO. THIS IS THAT OPPORTUNITY. YOU KNOW THE RIGHT THING TO DO. START DOING IT.


NOT FOR ME. NOT FOR THE MEMORY OF MY FATHER. BUT FOR YOU, TRUSK.

YOU'RE NUTS, LADY. CERTIFIABLE. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
IT'S ONE THING TO FLY US INTO A TRAP. IT'S A WHOLE 'NOTHER THING TO FLY *ME* INTO ONE WITHOUT EVEN TELLING ME!

LEIA, I GOTTA TELL YOU--I RESENTED YOU SENDING ME ON A MISSION FOR A GLORIFIED FARMBOY--

I'M NOT SORRY. LUKE, YOU REMIND ME OF ME, BEFORE I SAW THE THINGS I'VE SEEN. I HOPE YOU DON'T CHANGE TOO MUCH WHEN YOU EXPERIENCE THE GALAXY.
DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY. YOU'LL BE GREAT SOMEDAY, TRULY, BUT I THINK YOU'RE GREAT RIGHT NOW.



OKAY, YEAH, NO, FINE. I'M NOT GONNA...

THANK YOU.
BUT--

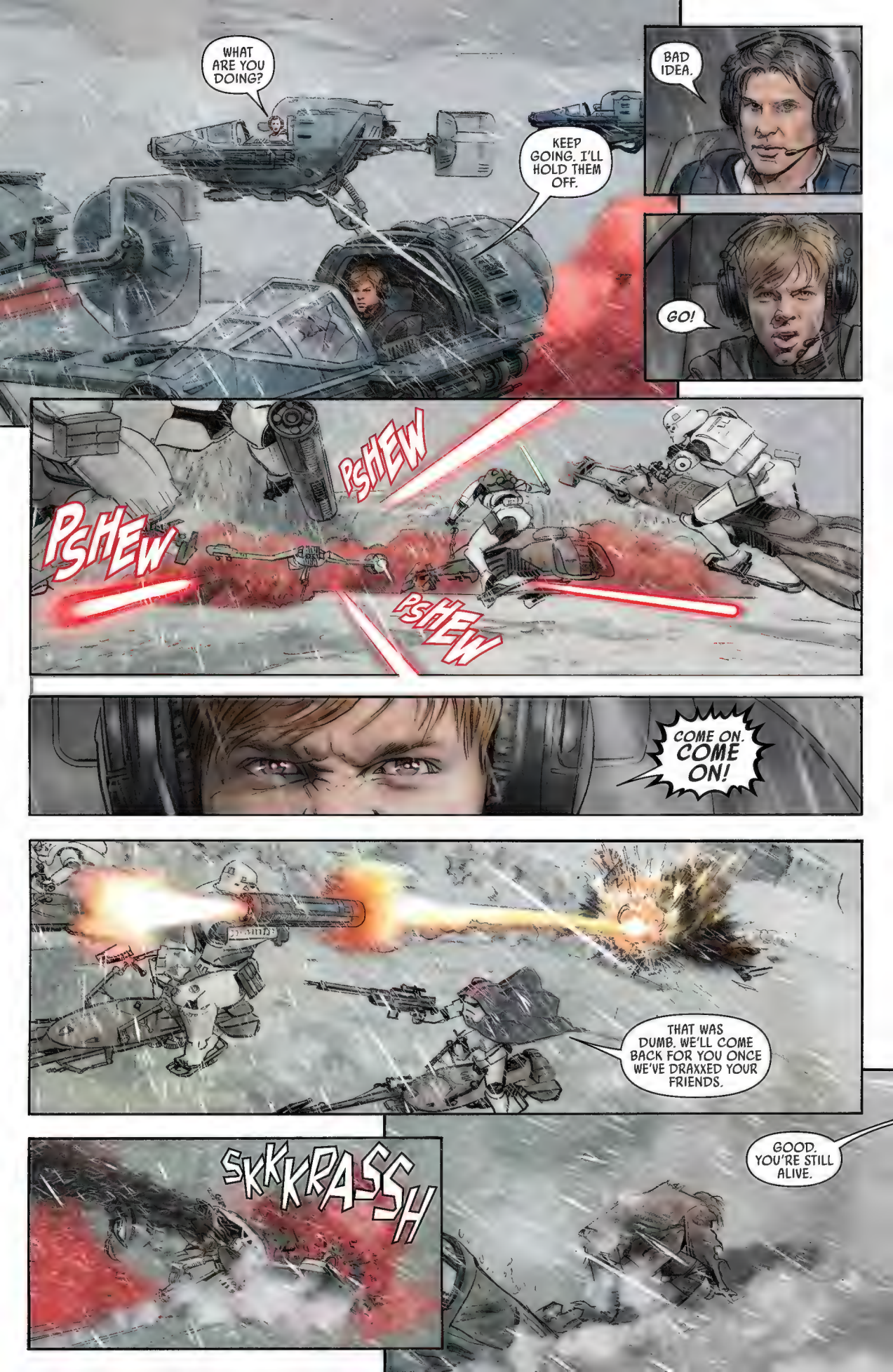
--WE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE--
--IS WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SAY.

THAT IS WHAT *I* WAS SAYING!

YOU KNEW ABOUT THE SALT STORMS, TOO?
WHAT SALT STORMS?
THEY'RE DEADLY AND COULD TRAP US IN OUR OWN BASE FOR YEARS! THERE'S ONE COMING IN NOW.
IT'LL HAVE TO WAIT. THIS GUY LURED US HERE TO SELL US OUT TO SOME STORMTROOPERS!
AND HE FORGED ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS!
WAIT. STORMTROOPERS?!
SCAR SQUADRON.
I HATE THOSE GUYS.
DO YOU HEAR--
A SHUTTLE.
RRRRRR
WELL, TRUSK, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK OUT AFTER ALL. BUT YOU CAN STILL BE OF USE TO US AS AN ASSET TO THE REBELLION. WILL YOU?
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY ALREADY.
HE MADE HIS DECISION.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE. COME ON, PRINCESS!

Above Crait.
LOOKS LIKE THE REBELS ON THE GROUND ARE SCATTERING, SERGEANT KREEL.
GOOD. I LIKE THE HUNT.
SUIT UP, SCAR SQUADRON.
PROMISE ME YOU'LL LEAVE ONE FOR ME.
I CAN'T PROMISE THAT. YOU KNOW HOW I GET.
BLOOD-HUNGRY.
BLOOD-HUNGRY, YEAH.
YEEEEEAHHH!

THEY'RE RIGHT ON US!
VISIBILITY AIN'T GREAT. CHEWIE, CAN YOU GET A SHOT?
MRAWR!
CH-PSSHK
LEAVE HIM FOR NOW. WE HAVE THEM.


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
KEEP GOING. I'LL HOLD THEM OFF.
BAD IDEA.
GO!
PSHEW
PSHEW
PSHEW
COME ON. COME ON!
THAT WAS DUMB. WE'LL COME BACK FOR YOU ONCE WE'VE DRAXXED YOUR FRIENDS.
SKKKRASSH
GOOD. YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.

YOU ARE ABOUT TO HAVE A VERY BAD DAY, BOY.
SHWOOM
SHEEEYOWN
TODAY'S NOT OVER YET.

LEFT! LEFT!
"LEFT"?
REPORTING FOR BATTLE, PRINCESS.
SCAR SQUADRON DOESN'T HAVE A PRAYER.
WE'RE GETTING YOU TO THE *FALCON* WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE, LEIA.
ME? WE HAVE TO HELP ***THEM!***
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ME!
YEAH, I KNOW. THAT'S WHY THE REST OF US HAVE TO. LET'S FLY.

CHEWIE, YOU AND THE PRINCESS GO PREP THE SHIP. I'LL MAKE SURE LUKE IS--
RRRRAGGHR!
YOU. RUINED. EVERYTHING!
DO YOU KNOW 'OW MUCH I WAS GONNA BE PAID IF THE WHOLE FLEET CAME 'ERE?
YOU'RE JUST LIKE YER DADDY, GIRL.
YOU DON'T SEE THE GOOD IN FOLK.
YOU LOOK RIGHT PAST IT TO THE 'ORRIBLE THINGS A MAN'S DONE OR WILL DO...
...AND YE DARE 'EM TO DO WORSE.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
I'M JUST A FARMBOY FROM TATOOINE.
ONE OF MANY SAND-PLANET FARMBOYS.
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!

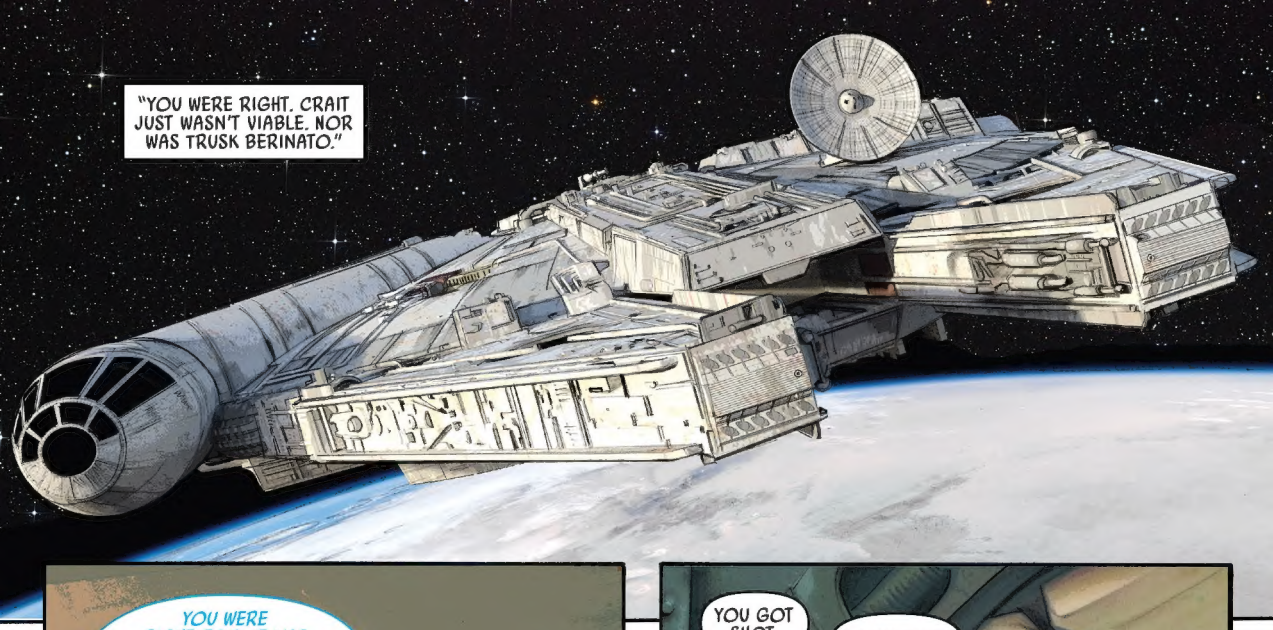
BUT ONE THING WAS TRUE THERE, JUST LIKE IT'S TRUE HERE.
WHEN SOMEONE COMES FOR WHAT'S OURS, THEY DON'T TRY IT TWICE.
WE WORK AN HONEST DAY AND A LONG ONE.
WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS. BUT YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO MEET US IN THE DARK.
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!
TKTKTKTKTKT!

WHERE I COME FROM--
--WHEN SOMEONE PUSHES YOU--
--YOU PUSH BACK HARDER!
JUST LIKE THESE DUNE WORMS ARE DOING!
YOU COME AT A FARMBOY, WELL...

"...YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW."
I'M FROM THE RED SQUADRON, YOU HEAR ME?
WE DESTROYED THE DEATH STAR!
YOU WANT TO COME AFTER WEDGE ANTILLES...
...YOU BETTER BRING A STAR DESTROYER!

TRUSK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS.
OF COURSE I DO! YOU SEE IT. NOW GET IN THE SHIP.
DON'T DO THIS, TRUSK. I'M WORTH MORE TO YOU THAN SHE IS. EVER HEARD OF JABBA THE HUTT?
BIG REWARD FOR ME. HE WANTS ME BAD. HE SAYS IT'S BECAUSE I OWE HIM FOR A SHIPMENT I LOST.
IN REALITY, I STOLE HIS WIFE.
ELIIMY.
MRS. ELIIMY THE HUTT.
SHE WAS A HANDSOME WOMAN.
NOT EVEN LOOKING AT ME. MISTAKE.
I'M A Q'ITANE FROM UPPER ETREGA. I HAVE EXCELLENT PERIPHERAL VISION.
RRGGGH!
HAN!
OWWW.

WHAT? PERIPHERAL FOR DAYS, BUT NO DEPTH OF FIELD. HE BARELY TAGGED ME.
I KNOW.
K-POW
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE HE OUTDREW YOU.
HOLD ON, WE GOT COMPANY.
SCAR SQUADRON MANAGED TO LIMP AWAY WITH THEIR LIVES, BUT WE GOTTA GO.
NOTHING'S GOING TO SURVIVE THIS STORM.


"YOU WERE RIGHT. CRAIT JUST WASN'T VIABLE. NOR WAS TRUSK BERINATO."

YOU WERE RIGHT, TOO. IT WAS WORTH THE EFFORT. WE SHALL FIND A MORE PERMANENT BASE, EVENTUALLY. I HOPE THIS HASN'T DIMINISHED YOUR BELIEF IN YOUR SENSE OF PEOPLE. IT'S ONE OF YOUR BEST QUALITIES.
THANK YOU, MON MOTHMA. THEY DON'T ALWAYS SEEM LIKE IT, BUT I'VE PICKED SOME WINNERS. WE'LL RETURN SHORTLY.

YOU GOT SHOT.
PROTECTING YOU!

HOW ARE YOU, LUKE?
THE SAME. SMALL LIFE. TRYING TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.
GOOD. DON'T CHANGE.
The End.

STAR WARS: DJ - MOST WANTED
NEXT ISSUE: